

#4/P.Amdt A
4/27/02
C. Pavia

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. Of: Kimikazu MATSUMOTO

For: IN-PLANE SWITCHING MODE ACTIVE MATRIX LIQUID ...

DOCKET: NEC N1128

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir: ...

Applicant respectfully requests that the following amendments be made to the above-identified application prior to examination.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the second numbered claim 15 to read as follows:

16. (Amended) The process as set forth in claim 15, in which said step a) includes the sub-steps of

a-1) patterning a first material layer into said black matrix,

a-2) patterning a second material layer into said color filter layers in such a manner that said black matrix is spaced from said color filter layers, and

a-3) covering said black matrix and said color filter layers with an overcoat layer so that a part of said overcoat layer penetrates into the gap between said black matrix and said color filter layers for serving as said piece of material.

Please renumber claims 16-18 as claims 17-19 as follows:

17. (Amended) The process as set forth in claim 15, in which said step a) further includes the sub-step of a-4) forming moats in said part of said overcoat layer.